

## GANG SHARED \$400,000 IN FRENCH LINE MAIL THEFT

Prisoner Held in Paris Says International Band Were the Robbers.

WATCHED LA SAVOIE.

American Securities Shipped from This City in January Partly Traced.

PARIS, March 21.—The man named Buissac, arrested in this city with \$42,000 in American securities in his possession under the suspicion that he was an accomplice of the thieves who stole a mail bag, containing about \$400,000 on the French line steamer La Savoie, which left New York Jan. 17 and arrived at Havre Jan. 24, has made a confession implicating a gang of international robbers, as the result of which other arrests are expected immediately. It developed to-day that the majority of the stolen securities are not negotiable.

It was also virtually established that the registered mail matter was abstracted after the bags reached the railroad station here.

The postal authorities here say that the discovery that a sack of registered mail had been stolen was made on the arrival of the mail in this city from La Savoie, Jan. 25, but that the number of sacks received was correct. The authorities here called to the New York Post-office to ascertain whether there had not been a mistake in the number of registered mail sacks.

A reply was only given to-day that the case was turned over to the police, with the result that they captured a man named Buissac, formerly a broker's clerk, but they did not capture Buissac at that time. As the principal part of the body, with the exception of the stocks, has been recovered, and the long-time checks are not negotiable, the loss is declared comparatively small.

M. Symian, Sub-Secretary of the Post-Office, was the first to inform the police that a great robbery had been committed. Detectives were sent to the banks, houses, and in the search this prosecuted Buissac was "picked up." Magistrate Leydet questioned the man closely and then held him.

Prior to the arrest a cablegram sent to the postal authorities in Paris, through the consular office, to the fact that the mail bag had been duly shipped. With \$300 other mail bags the stolen pouch was shipped from New York aboard the French line steamer La Savoie.

It is the belief of the police here that the valuable bag was "potted" from the hour it went aboard the steamer, and that the crooks who ultimately effected the theft were booked as passengers.

The robbery may have been planned weeks in advance, for it could not have been perpetrated without the aid of accomplices here when the bags were discharged from the steamer's hold.

In an interview to-day M. Symian said the loss of the sack was discovered over a fortnight ago, that it had been shipped from New York Feb. 14 and arrived at Havre Feb. 21, and it was also virtually established that the registered mail matter was abstracted after the bags reached the railroad station here.

Postmaster Wilcox said today that the French government had reported that a mail bag containing registered mail matter was stolen from the La Savoie.

Thirty-five hundred bags of mail were loaded by La Savoie on that trip, said Postmaster Wilcox. "That is the record number for any steamer of the French line," he was reported as saying. "There had been a great deal of trouble in handling the bags at the pier, and a number of them were lost off the bag in which were 175 registered letters and packages."

Well-known lawyer informed me that he had sent land deeds of enormous value across on La Savoie and that they had never reached their destination. The deeds, however, were not negotiable, and he said he had turned them over to the postal authorities, who had the value of \$400,000, and they did not come in time.

Postmaster Wilcox said that he then made a full report to Washington, and that the robbery was the work of some one acquainted with the methods of handling foreign mail was justified. The bag stolen contained only registered mail. The bags on Jan. 24, 1907, were of the same kind, and the most valuable bag should have been picked out. "Hags containing registered mail are first placed into a pouch, and then the pouch goes into a regular mail bag in order to hide the identity of its contents," said Postmaster Wilcox. "There are many unusual features to this robbery, and the Post-Office Department investigation is being hastened from Washington."

## ASSEMBLY IN UPROAR OVER RECOUNT ON MAYORALTY

Murphy - Hearst Forces Join Republicans and Down McClellan Men.

BILL IS RUSHED ALONG.

Oliver, Repudiated as Leader, Sorely Tempted to Pass the Lie to Cuvillier.

(Special to The Evening World.) ALBANY, March 21.—After a sharp debate, in which old political scores were aired, the Assembly to-day advanced to third reading the Prentice bill, for a judicial recount of the ballots in the McClellan-Hearst-Mayorality contest of 1905. The Murphy Democrats joined with the Republicans in supporting the measure. Downing, of Brooklyn, Schoonck, of Syracuse, and one or two others of the majority did not vote on the bill.

The test came on the motion to recommit. McClellan's friends mustering 15 votes against the motion, while the Murphy-Hearst-Republican combination rolled up 98 votes.

The row between the Mayor's adherents and those of Hearst began when "Paradise Jimmy" Oliver, minority leader, announced that he had made an agreement with the Republicans that all debate on the bill be postponed until the date of final passage was reached.

"I rise to a question of order," cried Oliver, "and I demand that the bill be postponed until the date of final passage is reached. I want to say here that I did not for one, like a certain other person, sit in the Lafayette Hotel in Buffalo last September and suppose I have got to go in and vote for that man who has pictured me behind the bars in prison stripes."

Oliver, angered by this reference to the past, cried out: "Mr. Speaker, it is not parliamentary to call a man a liar. I suppose that I am not permitted to do it. That's the only reason."

"I rise to a question of personal privilege, too," shouted Foley, of Niagara, the real Hearst ally. "I am so disturbed that Speaker Wadsworth gave a continuous performance in the gavel pounding line. All the while Cuvillier was shouting that he had a resolution to offer."

Assemblyman Mead, of Albany, finally moved the previous question. On roll call nearly twenty Republicans were absent, leaving the bill to pass Tuesday.

The bill is scheduled to pass next Tuesday.

## HIGHLANDERS PLAY UNDER HOT SUN

Weather Just Like Midsummer for Game with Atlanta.

Atlanta, Ga., March 21.—When the Highlanders lined up for another game with Atlanta this afternoon the bleachers resembled a shirt-waist show on Broadway. The hot rays of the sun made rosters shed their coats in a hurry, and it was a novel sight to see a perspiring baseball crowd at this time of the year, while reports received down here indicate that New York is just recovering from a winter's snowstorm.

The thermometer registered 65 degrees at 2 o'clock, and it was an ideal day for training. In the morning the players could get up a sweat without moving.

There was considerable interest attached to this afternoon's game, as Griffith announced that he would give Causton, his left-handed pitcher, another try-out, and that Zeller, the pitching wonder of the Southern League, was to be matched against him. Zeller holds the strike-out record of the minor league.

Aside from the few infielders who are laid up with trifling injuries, the New York team is in excellent shape. Tomorrow the entire club goes to Miami for two games, playing there Friday and Saturday. About 1,200 people turned out to witness the festivities this afternoon.

# COURT REBUKES JEROME IN THE THAW LUNACY HEARING

Crowd Viewing Overturned Auto on Brooklyn Bridge After It Was Wrecked by a Trolley Car  
Photographed Especially for The Evening World.



## AUTO AND TROLLEY CRASH ON BRIDGE TIES UP TRAFFIC

Chauffeur Barely Escapes Sliding Through Rail and Falling to Street.

In a collision between an automobile and a trolley car on the Brooklyn Bridge, just west of the Manhattan tower to-day, Daniel's, a chauffeur, was shot through the outside railing and hung with the upper part of his body suspended over the roofs of buildings 150 feet below. Two inches more and he would have dropped.

T. A. McNeill, his employer, a cotton goods broker, was thrown against the railing but did not go through. On account of the accident west-bound traffic on the bridge was tied up for over half an hour.

Mr. McNeill lives at No. 41 Fourth street, Brooklyn. Daniel's, his chauffeur, was at No. 25 Fourth street. They were on their way to Manhattan in a forty horse-power car and traveling down the incline at a good rate of speed. Mr. McNeill was in the tonneau and Daniel was driving.

Just after passing the Manhattan tower a truck, heavily loaded, swung out of the street car track in front of the automobile. There was a car right behind, but Daniel thought he could run his machine on the track ahead of the truck and swing around the truck.

But he miscalculated the speed of the street car, which struck his auto a fair blow between the front and rear wheels and completely overturned it. The heavy machine slid to the outer edge of the bridge, stopping a few feet from the railing, while Daniel and McNeill kept on going.

Daniel was sliding on his stomach with his arms extended and went right through an opening in the railing. When he stopped his head, shoulder and the upper part of his trunk were hanging over the roofs of buildings in Water street. He was badly cut and bruised. A policeman hustled him aboard a car and brought him to the Manhattan end of the bridge, whence he was sent to the Hudson Street Hospital. Mr. McNeill was slightly injured and remained on the bridge to look after the removal of his wrecked car.

To-day's accident happened right at the point where the automobile of Mayor Tunbridge, of Brooklyn, was struck by a car three weeks ago. Mrs. Tunbridge was run over by the street car and killed.

## TWO-YEAR-OLD RACE GOES TO REBEL QUEEN

Fast Track and Good Card Bring Out New Orleans Regulars.

## NEW ORLEANS RESULTS:

FIRST RACE—No Quarter (8 to 1 and 3 to 1) 1, Spider Webb (3 to 1 for place) 2, Kohinoor 3.  
SECOND RACE—Rebel Queen (9 to 2 and 8 to 5) 1, Hazel M. (8 to 1 for place) 2, Brawny Lad 3.  
THIRD RACE—Granada (9 to 2 and 7 to 5) 1, Grenade (out for place) 2, Rebounder 3.

NEW ORLEANS, March 21.—A fast track and a fairly good card furnished the regulars with ample opportunity for speculation here to-day. The seven races of long handicap, with Pasadena and St. Valentine meeting, promised to furnish the best race of the day.

FIRST RACE—Five and a half furlongs. Spider Webb, 111; A. Martin, 110; Kohinoor, 109; J. Lee, 108; Zick Abrams, 107; L. Smith, 106; Bill Phillips, 105. Time, 1:10.4.

SECOND RACE—Five and a half furlongs. Rebel Queen, 110; Hazel M., 109; Brawny Lad, 108; J. Lee, 107; Zick Abrams, 106; L. Smith, 105; Bill Phillips, 104. Time, 1:10.4.

THIRD RACE—Five and a half furlongs. Granada, 110; Grenade, 109; Rebounder, 108; J. Lee, 107; Zick Abrams, 106; L. Smith, 105; Bill Phillips, 104. Time, 1:10.4.

FOURTH RACE—Five and a half furlongs. Spider Webb, 111; A. Martin, 110; Kohinoor, 109; J. Lee, 108; Zick Abrams, 107; L. Smith, 106; Bill Phillips, 105. Time, 1:10.4.

FIFTH RACE—Five and a half furlongs. Rebel Queen, 110; Hazel M., 109; Brawny Lad, 108; J. Lee, 107; Zick Abrams, 106; L. Smith, 105; Bill Phillips, 104. Time, 1:10.4.

SIXTH RACE—Five and a half furlongs. Granada, 110; Grenade, 109; Rebounder, 108; J. Lee, 107; Zick Abrams, 106; L. Smith, 105; Bill Phillips, 104. Time, 1:10.4.

## BROKER FIRES A BULLET INTO RIGHT TEMPLE

Charles Miller Ends His Life While Family Is at Breakfast.

Charles Miller, a retired broker, to-day sat up in bed at his home, No. 101 Bainbridge street, Brooklyn, and fired a .38-caliber revolver bullet through his right temple, blowing off part of the top of his skull.

The family, consisting of a wife, son and daughter, had been accustomed to letting Mr. Miller sleep as late as he could since he retired from business on account of ill-health a year ago, and when they were breakfasting without him they were startled by the revolver shot.

Rushing to his bedroom, they found the body of Miller in a sitting posture. Dr. Louis Nichols, of No. 385 Stuyvesant street, who was hastily summoned, said that death had been instantaneous.

When the police went to the residence they were given but little information. The coroner was notified and will investigate. Little could be learned at the house except that Mr. Miller had retired from his business in Manhattan some time ago and had been in poor health, and consequently depressed.

Mr. Miller was a member of the New York Stock Exchange house of Kelly, Miller & Co., in the Mills Building, No. 5 Wall street. It is one of the old firms, having been in the exchange forty years. Mr. Miller was taken into the house twenty years ago.

According to Albert Kelley, Jr., Mr. Miller was taken down with typhoid in 1906 and was ill from it eighteen months. His sickness developed into nervous prostration. He had not been at the office for five weeks, and was planning to go to California for a long rest. He was broken down in health, but had not been in the market.

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## THIEVES RANSACK COUNTRY HOME OF MRS. SIEGEL

Orienta Point Villa Looted of Silverware and Paintings.

## SOUND PIRATES' WORK.

Looters Reach the Place by Water and Take Out Nearly Every Article of Value.

Mrs. Henry Siegel was notified to-day at her city residence, No. 25 East Eighty-second street, that her beautiful summer home at Orienta Point, Mamaroneck, had been looted during the night. Her gardener telephoned to her that burglars had broken into the house some time after midnight and ransacked the lower floors, leaving the interior in confusion.

The robbery had been carried out systematically and the crooksmen escaped with thousands of dollars' worth of silverware, oil paintings, valuable tapestries and ceramics. There was no one in the house but the gardener and he slept profoundly while the invaders stripped the walls and rifled the rooms on the ground floor.

The thieves got in through the drawing room window and then went to work like a band of furniture movers. Carriage tracks on the gravelled path leading to the port cochere testify to the fact that the plunderers trod a wagon or van with them.

## TORNADO IN ACTION.

After climbing into the drawing room from the front doors and carried their loot out to their conveyance. When the gardener came down stairs in the morning he found the front doors still wide open, the walls of the rooms almost bare and the furniture piled about as if disturbed by a hurricane.

Mr. Siegel is in Boston. Before setting out in her automobile Mrs. Siegel talked at some length with the caretaker and learned that the thieves had overlooked nothing. They had broken open the drawers of bureaux, sideboards and cabinets. They had stripped mantels and shelves of costly ceramics and bric-a-brac and had even carried away a number of valuable Turkish rugs. Some of the oil paintings had been cut from their frames and others were carried away intact.

The house is situated on the brink of the Sound, and it is believed that some of the robbers reached the place by boat, others coming in by a vehicle of some sort. Judging from the amount of plunder taken at least half a dozen men were engaged. The thieves left no clue of any sort behind them, and no answers were given to the village of Mamaroneck during the night.

In the outbuildings on the Siegel estate half a dozen servants were sleeping, but none were disturbed by the visit of the plunderers.

## Statement by Mrs. Siegel.

Shortly after her arrival at Detroit, on the morning of March 20, Mrs. Siegel made a careful examination of the premises and made the following statement to The Evening World reporter: "I cannot tell just how much my loss is. The burglars forced an entrance through the windows on the first floor and which face the Sound."

"I have not made a thorough investigation, but I can tell you that valuable paintings have been cut from frames. Oriental rugs have been taken and other valuables carried away were silverware, heirlooms and other priceless treasures. I cannot tell my loss just yet."

"The police have no idea yet of the actual loss, but it is reported that Mrs. Siegel has been robbed of \$50,000 worth at least \$5,000.

It is reported that the burglars came to Mrs. Siegel's private dock in a boat, as there are signs of footprints leading to the water's edge. A jummy was used in forcing open a big window. Mrs. Siegel lost none of her splendid jewels."

Robert Forest died to-day in St. Hood Relief Hospital of a broken spine, after leaving his home, No. 20 Wadsworth avenue, on the morning of Jan. 19 and fell on the sidewalk, landing with full weight on his body, smashed backbone. Surgeons from all parts of the city have visited the hospital and watched the game fight to make for life.

Forest, just twenty-five years old, was a clerk in a downtown office. He will be buried on Saturday.

Practically Accuses the District-Attorney of Preventing Testimony Being Given by Dr. Mabon that Would Have Shown Thaw Crazy.

## THAW WILL BE A WITNESS AT LUNACY COMMISSION.

Will Endeavor to Convince Its Members That He Is Sane Enough to Take Counsel with His Lawyers, Which Would Make Lunacy Commission Needless.

Justice Fitzgerald administered a stinging rebuke to District-Attorney Jerome this afternoon shortly after the proceedings were begun to decide whether the Justice should appoint a commission in lunacy to pass upon the fitness of Harry Thaw to stand trial for the murder of Stanford White.

The Justice drew attention to the fact that when Dr. William Mabon was on the stand a lawyer for the defense questioned him regarding his opinion of the present condition of the mind of the prisoner. "And the District-Attorney then and there interposed an objection, although he knew at that time that Dr. Mabon believed the defendant to be insane."

Under the law," said the Justice, "I was compelled to sustain the objection. If the District-Attorney now desires to explain why he took advantage of his legal privilege to rule out the evidence which he says he desired above all things to bring out I am willing now to hear him."

## JEROME TAKEN BY SURPRISE.

His Honor was practically accusing Jerome of deliberately suppressing proof of Thaw's present insanity a week ago when he had an opportunity to have it properly brought out. Taken by surprise, Jerome hesitated a moment. Then rather weakly he said:

"I am at a loss to understand what Your Honor means."

But everybody else understood it and Thaw's lawyers were chuckling among themselves at the effectiveness of the rebuke. The shoe was on the other foot now—for only yesterday Jerome had accused them of burying facts under legal technicalities—and they rejoiced, since with half an eye they could see that the shoe pinched.

There was a belief expressed this afternoon that, after all, there will not be any lunacy commission appointed, and the trial may continue from where it stopped.

Although it was expected that the proceedings would be largely technical, a great crowd of men stormed the doors of Justice Fitzgerald's courtroom.

Justice Fitzgerald opened the session by reading from the record of the case the District-Attorney's sensational speech of yesterday, in which he declared that Thaw was insane, and accused Thaw's lawyers of unprofessional conduct in holding back facts relative to their client's lunacy.

When he had finished reading, the Justice, addressing Jerome, said: "Are there any additional steps to be taken in connection with your suggestion of yesterday?"

"There are, said Jerome, "both testimony and affidavits."

Before he could go further Delmas rose up. Just behind him sat all the rest of Thaw's lawyers. Gleason was there, but Gleason was silent.

"A copy of the District-Attorney's suggestion has just been put in my hands," said Delmas, "but I have, of course, had no time to answer it. I have also been informed that it is the intention of Mr. Jerome to offer oral evidence. I insist that we should have more time in which to reply to Mr. Jerome's statements."

## BROTHERS OF THAW ARRIVE.

While Delmas was speaking, Josiah and Edward Thaw slipped in at a side door and took their old seats.

Jerome proceeded to explain that he had used all possible expedition in preparing his motion. He said he had not embodied any statements from Dr. Allen McLane Hamilton, because Dr. Hamilton felt that unless the lawyers waived the professional privilege, he, as a physician, could not make an affidavit.

"That is my reason for desiring to examine Dr. Hamilton orally," added Jerome.

"I am informed that Dr. Hamilton is in possession of material and important facts tending to show a progressive form of insanity existing in the defendant. Unless Mr. Delmas waives the privilege of professional secrecy and permits Dr. Hamilton to make an affidavit, I will ask the Court for permission to examine him upon the stand. I desire to say to the Court that I personally am withholding nothing that can facilitate the settlement of the point that has just arisen in the case of the People against Harry Thaw."

## JEROME MAKES HIMSELF CLEAR.

"I do not want the Justice to labor under the misapprehension that I have concealed any information that might assist Your Honor. I desire to say that I acted just as soon as I had something tangible to

## DRANK POISON TO END HIS SUFFERING.

Jacob Green, a cafe-keeper at No. 782 Union avenue, in the Bronx, drank three ounces of cyanide of potassium solution to-day. His death was almost instantaneous. Green was fifty-seven years old, and occupied rooms above his saloon.

## HUMAN SKULL FOUND.

A portion of an old and apparently much fingered human skull was found to-day wrapped in a newspaper, lying upon a bench in the Subway station at Lefferts avenue and One hundred and Tenth street.

Charles Karp, the ticket-chopper, turned the skull over to Policeman Barry of the West One Hundred and Twenty-fifth street station, who took it to the Morgue. It is thought the skull was lost by a physician.

## VAIN FIGHT FOR LIFE WITH A BROKEN BACK.

Robert Forest died to-day in St. Hood Relief Hospital of a broken spine, after leaving his home, No. 20 Wadsworth avenue, on the morning of Jan. 19 and fell on the sidewalk, landing with full weight on his body, smashed backbone. Surgeons from all parts of the city have visited the hospital and watched the game fight to make for life.

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